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CONCORDIA PROFESSOR WINS MAJOR CANADIAN SCIENCE AWARD

MONTRÉAL / January 19, 1988 --- Concordia University Mechanical Engineering Professor W. G. Habashi has been awarded the E. W. R. Steacie Memorial Fellowship, one of the country's most prestigious awards for science and engineering achievements.

The fellowships are awarded annually by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), Canada's largest research granting agency. Award winners are chosen from the top researchers nominated by all Canadian universities.

The fellowship is awarded in memory of Egan William Richard Steacie, who was president of the National Research Council of Canada from 1952 to 1962, and a pioneer in the evolution of research-driven scientific and engineering development in Canada.

Among Dr. Habashi's many accomplishments is the development of some of the computational codes most frequently used in aerodynamics, which have helped Canada set a world standard in aviation technology. An aerodynamics consultant for Pratt & Whitney Canada Inc. for the past 10 years, his work in applied mathematics and computational aerodynamics has played a significant role in refining the designs of many aircraft, most recently the de Havilland Dash-8. Dr. Habashi and his research colleagues have played a significant part in the success of the Canadian gas turbine industry, which has resulted in hundreds of millions of dollars in export sales, this against stiff competition from countries such as the U.S., Japan, the U.K. and France.

Dr. Arthur May, president of NSERC, will present the awards at a January 19 ceremony in the Salon of the National Arts Centre in Ottawa.

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Dr. Habashi, using super-computers, will use the proceeds of the award over the next two years to develop new methods for the solution of the Navier-Stokes equations in Concordia's Computational Fluid Dynamics Laboratory, which will greatly serve the Canadian aerospace community. This will take advantage of his Concordia team's 10-years' international experience in the field of computational fluid dynamics, in particular for transonic external aerodynamic flows and internal turbomachinery configurations.

W. G. Habashi was born in Egypt and attended McGill University (BA '67; MSc '69). He obtained his PhD in Aerospace Engineering at Cornell University in 1975. After two years as Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the Stevens Institute of Technology in New Jersey, he joined Concordia in the fall of 1975 as an Assistant Professor.

The internationally-known Dr. Habashi is the editor of five major books on computational aerodynamics as well as a large number of publications, and has been the recipient of numerous grants over the years. He has been invited to teach three international courses, one at Purdue University in Indianapolis, Indiana, one at the University of Texas, Austin, and another at the prestigious Von Karman Institute for Fluid Dynamics in Brussels, Belgium.

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Media representatives requiring additional information should contact Diane McPeak, Public Relations Officer, at (514) 848-4883.